

CAN YOU HELP!

**We always need the following items for our
creative areas:**

Plastic bottle tops

Foil/shiny sweet wrappers

Foil lids

Patterned fabric/felt pieces

Ribbons/string/wool

Buttons/sequins

Wrapping paper (unwanted, used or leftover bits)!

Wood chip/bark

Marbles

Coloured scraps of card/paper

Unused wallpaper

Straws

Boxes, yoghurt pots

Shells, fir cones, pebbles

Etc, etc!!!

Thank you!



**BLESSED ROBERT WIDMERPOOL
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**

Welcome to the Foundation Stage -
the beginning of an educational adventure.



“We’re off on a journey!”

For more information please visit:

The school website at <http://brwacademy.com>

The school Facebook account

The school Twitter page @BRWSchool



MISSION STATEMENT

*" WE WALK KINDLY
WITH EACH OTHER
FOLLOWING THE
FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS
CHRIST AS WE LIVE
AND LEARN."*

Welcome to the Foundation Stage.

Welcome to the Foundation Stage. We hope your child has a happy and enjoyable experience with us. The Foundation Stage includes children from three years of age to the end of the reception year. It offers the best possible start and opportunity for success for your child.



Type of School

This is a Catholic Voluntary Academy for children from 3 to 11 years of age.

Class Structure

At Blessed Robert School we have 7 classes. The Foundation Unit is staffed by 2 full time teachers, 2 full time teaching assistants, 1 part-time teaching assistant and 1 full-time care assistant. **It should be noted that a place in FS1 does not guarantee a place in FS2.**

Special Needs

If we are concerned about a particular child, we will make contact with parents at an early stage. Should it be considered to be appropriate to involve outside agencies we would always seek the permission/consent of the parents/carers first.

Parents Consultations

Staff are always available at the start and end of each session. If you would like to discuss your child's development in more detail you are always welcome to make an appointment with the class teacher. We also have 'Stay and Play Days' which include an opportunity to talk to the Class Teacher. If or when your child is in Foundation Stage 2 we also offer a more formal parents' meeting once a term.

Parent involvement

We encourage parents to come into class to help with various activities. We also ask for support on our larger school visits.

School Assemblies and Masses

School Mass takes place regularly throughout the year. There are also Christmas Assemblies presented by Foundation Stage 1 and 2 and a Spring or Summer Assembly performed by Foundation Stage 2, all of which we would love you to attend.



Governing body.

The school has a hard working and committed Governing body. Foundation Governors are appointed to ensure the Catholic ethos of the school is maintained. Governor details can be found on the school blog.

Policies

In school we have policies to state our plan of action across a wide range of educational and welfare issues. Please contact a member of staff if you would like to read any.

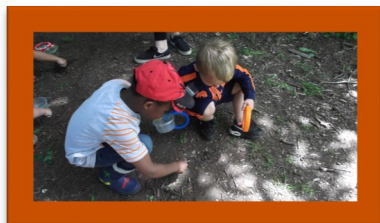
Complaints.

The school has a complaints procedure which can be found on the school blog brwacademy.com

***We pride ourselves on having a happy, hard working
and creative environment. We will look forward to your child joining our
community.***

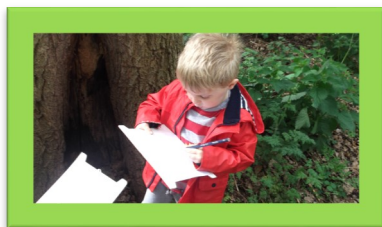
Outdoor play

The outdoor area plays a central role in the children's learning. All opportunities offered inside are reflected in the outdoor curriculum. There are even some activities that can only be offered outdoors as you can see by the fun we had in the pictures below.



Forest School

One of the rich experiences the children enjoy at Blessed Robert Widmerpool is to take part regularly in Forest School sessions at Glapton Wood. This approach enables skills and experiences gained through using the outdoor environment to create more effective learners in the classroom. The children will not just learn about nature, but also about working together, making choices for themselves, taking care of themselves and others, being respectful to others and having their own opinions and needs valued. This begins as soon as the children are settled in to the Foundation Stage Unit.



School Visits

Children will be offered school visits over the school year. These are a mixture of whole unit and small group activities. In some cases parents may be asked to make a contribution to the visit to cover travel and admission costs.

Homework.

There is a school library service where you are encouraged to read a book to your child. As they progress through the unit they may also be asked to complete a simple phonics (letters and sounds) activity and/or take a reading book home to practise.

Times and Routines

Foundation Stage 1	
Morning	Afternoon
<p>9:00am- 12:00pm</p> <p>Enter the site via the Milford entrance and proceed through the green gates into the playground. A member of staff will then let you into the Foundation Stage area at 8.50am. Doors open for the children to go home from 11.50am.</p>	<p>12.30pm-3:30pm</p> <p>Enter the site via the Milford entrance and wait by the green gates. A member of staff will then open the gates at 12.30pm. Doors open for the children to go home from 3.25pm.</p>

The staff are always available to talk to you at the beginning of the session. To ensure your child's safety at the end of the day please wait for your child in the playground. A member of staff will then send your child out to you.

Foundation Stage 2
<p>9:00am-3:30pm</p> <p>Enter the site via the Milford entrance and proceed through the green gates into the playground. A teacher will come outside to collect your children at 8.50am and return them to you at 3:25pm.</p>

It is important that your child is brought and collected by a known adult. If you are unable to collect your child and need to make other arrangements, you will need to inform either a member of staff or the school office prior to collection.

What to bring.

Bag containing a spare set of clothes.

It is likely, however well trained your children are, that they will have an 'accident' in the first few days of school. Please note **we expect children to be toilet trained before they start.** Children who are still using nappies may have to have their start date delayed.

Suitable outdoor clothing.

Your child will be out in **ALL weathers**. Therefore it is really important they have suitable clothing to protect them from the elements. Wellies can be brought and left in a bag on their peg.

Comforters

We do not encourage the use of these in school. However, for the first few days if your child is used to a blanket or dummy to calm themselves down we suggest you bring it in and leave it with a member of staff.

Snacks

During the session children are provided with milk and fruit free of charge.



Lunchtime

Foundation Stage 1 children who stay for lunch, bring a packed lunch from home. They eat their lunch in the hall and then return to the Foundation Unit to continue playing. Lunchtime supervision charges must be paid in advance.

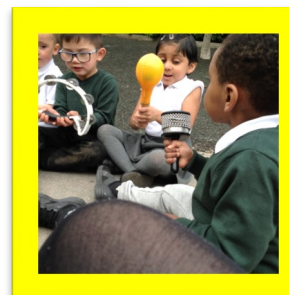
Absences

If your child is sick or ill, please keep them at home for **1 clear day.** Please contact the school by telephone on the morning of your child's illness.

School number:- 0115 915 2392

Expressive Arts and Design

Children have one focussed music session a week and daily informal music activities. There is also a balance of teacher led group activities and child led art activities to help the children develop their creative skills.



Personal Social and Emotional Skills

From the very beginning of their time here we support children to develop their social and emotional skills. This ensures children foster good habits and behaviours from the start. Teaching is done through small group activities as well as one to one when the need arises.



Example of a session at School

12:30pm My grown up drops me off at the door.

1:10pm- 1:20pm I go to my carpet and we say good afternoon to our friends and do a few minutes of phonics work.

1:20pm-2:15pm I can choose to play at an activity inside or outside. All the games and toys are carefully chosen by my teachers to follow my interests and help me learn lots of new and interesting things. My teacher may come and find me to do a special activity with her.

2:15-2:30 I go to my carpet and we do some number activities together.

2.30-3.15 Time for more play of my choosing before we all help to tidy up.

3:15 pm We have a story together then I fetch my belongings and get ready to be collected.

Maths

Children learn best through practical, fun activities, otherwise known as play! Through a wide range of natural resources and materials such as sand, water, beads and number lines we help children to foster the skills of number, shape, size and ultimately how to think logically and problem solve. The children also have a daily maths group session.



Understanding the World

We offer a wide range of practical activities to develop children's understanding about the world around them. As children learn best through first hand experience we also take children out of school to learn about the local area.



Physical Development

In school the children have a wealth of opportunities to develop both their fine motor (small movement) and the gross motor (large movements) skills. These are offered both in the indoor and outdoor curriculum. The children also have P.E sessions in the hall which help to foster gymnastic and dance skills.



First Aid

The school has a number of First Aiders. Minor injuries will be treated at school. However, in the event of a head bump your child will be issued with a letter. In the event of a more serious injury you will be contacted immediately. It is therefore essential we have at **least 3 contact numbers** for people who are able to collect your child in the event of an emergency.

Medicine

We will not administer medicine unless it has been prescribed by a doctor. In the case of prescribed drugs you will need to contact the school office to fill in the necessary permission forms.

Please ensure that the school is always aware of any particular needs your child may have. If your child has long term medical needs, parents should contact the head teacher to discuss their provision.

Inhalers

Staff should be made aware if your child has asthma and an in-date inhaler should be kept in school. Inhalers and spacers should be stored in a small bag e.g a pencil case with the child's name clearly labelled on.

****It is your responsibility to ensure an inhaler is kept up-to-date****

Clothing

School uniform must be worn and this can be purchased online from just -schoolwear.co.uk. Please note girls are not permitted to wear trousers. . Children are not allowed to wear boots inside. Foundation Stage 1 children do not require PE kit.



Jewellery

Jewellery is **not** permitted in school except for a single stud worn in pierced ears. Studs may not be worn on P.E days unless a child is able to take them out his or herself.

Hair

Hair should be tied back using discrete hair bands or bobbles in school colours.

Lost property.

We strongly recommend that you ensure **ALL** your child's clothes are **clearly labelled**.

Provision

Foundation Stage Leaders

Miss Chapman Foundation Stage Co-ordinator and
Foundation Stage 1 Teacher

Miss Matthews Foundation Stage 2 Teacher

Teaching Assistants

Miss Vaughan

Miss Korol

Miss Leonardi

Mrs Lancaster

Mrs Haddadi-Oual

Curriculum

All activities in the Foundation Stage are in line with the government document “Early Years Foundation Stage”. Further information can be found on the website <https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage>

Reading

From the beginning reading and sharing books is important. In class children have stories read to them every day and to encourage reading at home we also offer a weekly library service. As your child develops they will also have a daily session looking at letters and sounds, take part in guided reading sessions and, when appropriate, they will start to bring a reading book home.



Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening are critical skills for your child to learn. We give children lots of opportunities to develop them during the school day.



Writing

Writing skills are fostered from very early on in the Foundation stage. Lots of activities are provided to encourage good habits. Children are always encouraged to write in lowercase first.

